

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MARCH 26, 2007

**BATHURST STREET AND ATKINSON AVENUE
REQUEST FOR WESTBOUND RIGHT TURN LANE**

Recommendation

Councillor Alan Shefman recommends:

1. THAT the Region of York be requested to proceed with the design and construction of a westbound to northbound right turn lane at the intersection of Atkinson Avenue and Bathurst Street; and
2. THAT the cost of the work be borne by the Region of York.

Economic Impact

As the request is for the Region of York to pay the cost of designing and constructing the intersection improvement, there would be no economic impact to the City of Vaughan.

Communications Plan

N/A

Purpose

To initiate the design and construction of a westbound Atkinson Avenue to northbound Bathurst Street right turn lane.

Background - Analysis and Options

Bathurst Street is an arterial road under the jurisdiction of the Region of York and Atkinson Avenue is a collector road under the jurisdiction of the City of Vaughan. See Attachment 1 for the area road network.

Area residents have complained that traffic westbound on Atkinson backs up to Rosedale Heights Boulevard in the peak hours.

The Region of York was requested to review the feasibility of installing a westbound to northbound right turn lane at the intersection of Bathurst Street and Atkinson Avenue in the City of Vaughan. Currently the intersection is signalized and is configured as follows:

Bathurst Street:	2 through lanes both northbound and southbound Left turn lanes both northbound and southbound Right turn lanes both northbound and southbound
Atkinson Avenue:	2 through lanes each direction Left turn lane westbound to southbound
New Westminster Drive:	2 through lanes each direction Left turn lane eastbound to northbound

Traffic control at the intersection is under the jurisdiction of the Region of York.

In response to the request, the Region of York completed an assessment of the proposed turning lane. The Region advised that in accordance with the Canadian Capacity Guide, an exclusive westbound right turn lane is warranted when the right turning volume equals or exceeds 300 vehicles in one hour. This threshold is met at the intersection of Bathurst Street and Atkinson Avenue during both the morning and evening peak hour.

In addition, Regional staff conducted a capacity analysis to compare the existing condition versus adding an exclusive westbound right turn lane at the intersection of Bathurst Street and Atkinson Avenue. The results indicate that the level of service will increase from Level Of Service E to Level Of Service D for the entire intersection and the intersection peak hour delay will decrease by 17 seconds.

The Region of York advised that the City of Vaughan would be responsible for undertaking the project and all costs associated with the design and installation of the exclusive westbound right turn lane.

As noted above, the intersection is under the jurisdiction of the Region of York. The traffic signals and associated timing are fully the responsibility of the Region. The benefits noted above of the right turn lane are benefits to the traffic operations at the intersection. Further, the Region of York does plan and implement intersection improvements on their road network and their Development Charge document identifies various intersection projects on Regional roads as Regional DC projects. The Region of York budgets for maintenance, construction, reconstruction and improvements to their road network including intersections. The City of Vaughan does not budget and should not be required to pay for an improvement to an intersection under the Region's jurisdiction.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with Vaughan Vision 2007 and the priorities previously set by Council so as to Serve our Citizens.

Regional Implications

In order to undertake this intersection improvement project, the Region of York would be required to approve sufficient funds for the design and construction of the turning lane in their budget.

Conclusion

Based on studies undertaken by the Region of York, the westbound right turn lane is warranted and would both improve the level of service and decrease peak hour delay for the intersection. Since the intersection is owned and operated by the Region of York, the Region should be requested to implement and pay for the work.

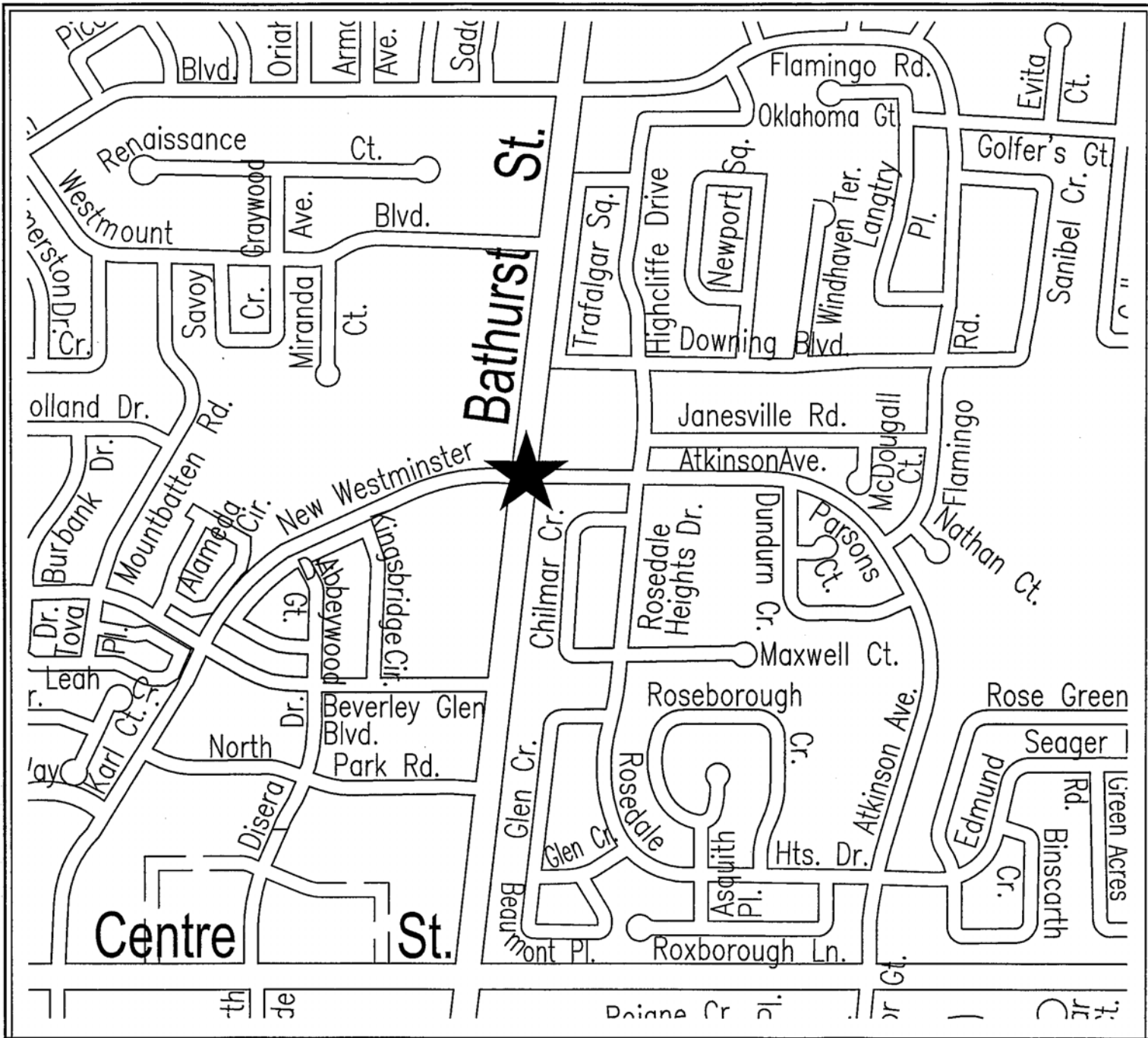
Attachments

1. Location Map

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Shefman
Councillor, Ward 5

ATTACHMENT No. 1

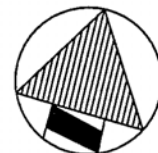


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LEGEND



INTERSECTION UNDER REVIEW



NOT TO SCALE